sociation, Chandigarh has been representing to the Union Territory Administration against non-implementation of the reservation policy in various departments of the Administration; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) and (b). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Perumon Refractories in Kerala

6972. SHRI T.J. ANJALOSE: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken any decision to start the "perumon Refractories" in Perumon, Quilon, Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTHOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (c). Kerala State Industrial Development Corporation (KSIDC), a State Government Undertaking of Government of Kerala, has a proposal to set up a refractory unit for the equity participation of Steel Authority of India Ltd (SAIL) in this refractory unit. In view of the excess capacity in the domestic refractory industry it was felt that it would not be possible for SAIL to participate in the equity of the proposed project.

Continuance of Market Intervention Operation of NDDB

6973. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned 'NDDB' pressure on Government to foil oil traders ' lobby' appearing in Business Standard, Calcutta dated 19 August , 1991;

(b) if so the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to allow the continuance of Market Intervention Operation (MIO) pursued by NDDB?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The NDDB has been appointed as the agency to carry out market intervention operations for a period of five years by Government of India in April,1989. The objectives, guidelines, terms and conditions of Market Intervention Operations have been determined. There is no proposal pending before this Department for any major departures from the decisions taken in the matter.

Sharing of River Waters between India and Bangladesh

6974. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made so far by the Secretaries Committee on sharing of Ganga Waters with Bangaladesh towards the working out of a broad framework for long-term comprehensive sharing of the common rivers;

(b) what has been response of the new Bangladesh Government towards the solution of this problem;

(c) the time by which the next round of talks is likely to be held;

(d) whether no meeting of the Standing Committee of the Indo-Bangladesh Joint Rivers Commission has taken place since April, 1988; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) to (c). For arriving at a reasonable basis for Ganga Water sharing, it was agreed that a Joint Technical Team would visit the areas in India and Bangladesh dependent on the Ganga flows to be shared for assessing the relevant ground situation. The next meeting will be held on dates convenient to the two countries.

(d) and (e). Yes, Sir. India requested for convening the Local Level Committee meetings for consideration by Standing Committee, but no meeting could take place for want of response from Bangladesh.

[*Translation*]

Cultivable Land Under Irrigation

6975. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the area of cultivable land in the country and the details of increase in this area over the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the area out of this cultivable land which is irrigated and the details of increase in it over the last three years, State-wise; and

(c) the area of the land which is irrigated by major and medium irrigation projects separately?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) to (c). Land use statistics are available up to the year 1987-88 only. Hence the State-wise details of cultivable area, irrigated area and area irrigated by Government Canals (which corresponds to major and medium irrigation) in respect of year 1985-86, 1986-87 and 1987-88 are given in Statement-I, Statement-II and Statement-III respectively.